

REMARKS

On entry of this response, claims 1 and 13 are amended and claims 11 and 12 are canceled. Now pending in the present application are claims 1-10 and 13, of which claim 1 is independent.

Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 12 and 13 are indicated to recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 12 and intervening claim 11. Claims 11 and 12 are subsequently canceled. In view of the amendment, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claim Objection

Claim 13 is objected to because of minor informalities. Applicants amend claim 13 to depend from claim 1. In view of the amendment, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to claim 13.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,249,076.

In the foregoing amendment, Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 12. In view of the amendment, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1-11 is moot. Applicants, therefore, request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-11 and pass the claims to allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. TAW-015US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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